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NOTES ON THE SYNONYMIES OF *ARIOMMA BREVIMANUM* AND *A. LURIDUM* AND THE PRESENCE OF THE LATTER IN THE ATLANTIC (TELEOSTEI, PERCIFORMES, ARIOMMATIDAE).

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The ariommatid *Cubiceps brevimanus* Klunzinger, 1884, was described from a single specimen taken by line in deep water in the Red Sea. This holotype was not re-examined, but the species was assumed to be an *Ariomma* by Haedrich (1967). It is a dried specimen, in good condition, with most of the scales, invested with gypsum (575 mm SL, ZMB 10702). A further specimen of *A. brevimanum* was kept from « a considerable number... (1.8 tons in weight)... corresponding to about 1400 specimens » and was described by Tabeta & Ishida (1975). An *A. luridum* reported by Abe (1954) was suspected to be *A. brevimanum* by Tabeta & Ishida, who mistook the fork length given by Abe as standard length.

Osteological studies on the genus *Ariomma* Jordan & Snyder, 1904 have shown interspecific differences in shapes to the first anal pterygiophore, i.e. in the two Pacific species *A. lurida* Jordan & Snyder, 1904 (1) and *A. evermanni* Jordan & Snyder, 1907. This character has been investigated in *Ariomma* specimens (including types) from museums in Berlin, Copenhagen, Honolulu, Leningrad, London, Vienna and Washington, with the following results.

1. *Ariomma evermanni* is a junior synonym of *A. brevimanum*. The anterior anal pterygiophore bases are still present in the holotype of *A. brevimanum* and the first one corresponds to that of *A. evermanni* the morphometric data for *A. evermanni* closely resemble those for *A. brevimanum*. Therefore, *A. brevimanum* is known from the Red Sea, the eastern rim of the Indian Ocean (off Java, Sumatra), Japan and Hawaii.

2. *Ariomma helena* Trunov, 1976, from the tropical eastern Atlantic is a junior synonym of *A. luridum*. A paratype of *A. helena* agrees with *A. luridum* in the first anal pterygiophore and in morphometrics. Haedrich (1968) examined specimens of *Ariomma* from

(1) Although Jordan & Snyder do not explain the ethymology of their new generic name, *Ariomma* most probably is a composed word of classic Greek origin; since, however the word ομμα (= eye) is neuter in any case, the specific name ought to be *luridum* (not *lurida*).

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the « Dana » collections and considered a small specimen (ZMUC-P 69939, « Dana » St 901) from the Caribbean north of St Croix Island to be *A. bondi* Fowler, 1930. This specimen has a « *luridum* » shape of the first anal pterygiophore and I believe it to be *A. luridum*. The species is therefore found on both sides of the Central Atlantic and in Japan, Hawaii and to the north of New Zealand.

3. *A. luridum* and *A. evermanni* differ externally not only in morphometrics, but also strickingly in the shape of the opercular bones (fig. 1).

4. *Ariomma dollfusi* Chabanaud, 1930, appears to be a second Red Sea species. It is known from 7 specimens, only one of these could be rediscovered (BMNH 1931.4.16.1), a fish of 110 mm SL, here designated as lectotype. The species seems to be closely related to *A. indicum* (Day, 1870).

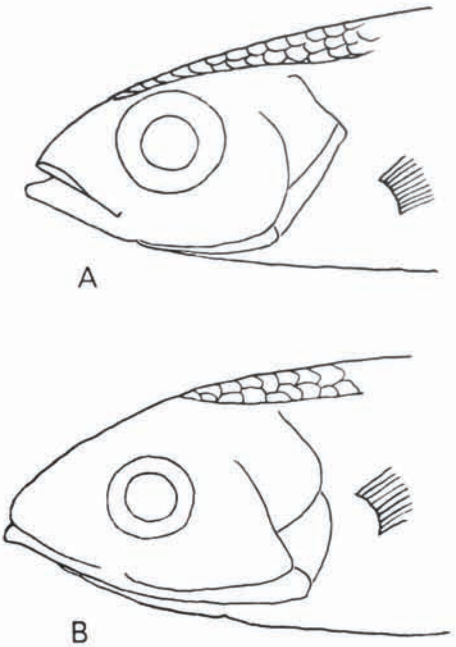

Fig. 1.

A *Ariomma luridum*, BPBM 3917, 215 mm SL,
B *Ariomma brevimanum*, NMW 14505, 325 mm SL.

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